# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# CIVIL AVIATION
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:285
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2008
DELAY IN FLIGHTS DUE TO FOG
Nikhil Kumar Shri

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

(a) whether many international flights are being delayed due to fog at the Indira Gandhi Interational Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(C) whether the pilots of most of the flights are not trained in CATIII landing system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government of ensure that the flight services are not disrupted even in foggy conditions?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION ( SHRI PRAFUL PATEL )

(a), (b), (c) & (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to parts (a), (b), (c) & (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred () Question No. 285 for 18.12.2008 regarding Delay in Flights due to Fog.

(a) & (b) Runway 28/10 and 29/11 at IGI Airport are equipped for operations under Cat III B conditions, that is, for operations in the RVR upto 50 meters conditions. However, sometimes due to dense fog when visibility drops below 50 meters or other reasons such as non availability of trained pilots etc. some fligths do get delayed/diverted. During the current season, one domestic flight each on 21.11.2008 and 11.12.2008 and 8 international flights on 21.11.2008 were diverted due to fog.

(c) & (d) Pilots are required to be imparted additional training by Airlines for CAT-II/III Operations during low visibility conditions as per the requirements laid down in Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) Section 7, Series `X`, Part-I.

List of Qualified Indian Pilots currently available with Indian operators is at Annex-I.

Although there is no mandatory requirement for Domestic Airlines to get their pilots trained to operate during low visibility conditions, these airlines are, however, persuaded from time to time to train their pilots for operation in low visibility conditions.

Flight schedules of Domestic Scheduled Operators to/ from fog bound airports are approved on the basis of number of trained pilots and suitable planes available with the operators for operation in low visibility conditions

Govt. have taken the following important measures to enhance the availability of trained pilots for CAT-II/III operations, as under:

(1) Only such pilots who are CAT-II/III qualifited, are approved as Instructor/ Examiner so as to ensure that more trained pilots are available for Cat-II/III operations during low visibility conditions to improve the operational efficiency.

(2) The flying experience and simulator training requirements as specified in Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) on Training of Pilots for CAT-II/III Operations has been reviewed and rationalized.

(3) The Low Visibility CAT-II/III Operations Training requirements have been included in the endorsement training syllabus and laid down by the operators in their Training Manual.